

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - January 20, 2006

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Richard Lynn Karaus was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in San Diego by the Honorable William Q. Hayes to serve 151 months in custody, based on Karaus' conviction for bank robbery. Judge Hayes also ordered that Karaus serve a three-year term of supervised release following his release from prison and pay restitution to the victim banks in the amount of \$2,745. Karaus previously pled guilty to robbing the Wells Fargo Bank at 475 Fletcher Parkway, El Cajon, California, on October 6, 2005.

According to court documents, on July 19, 2005, Karaus entered the Wells Fargo Bank and presented a demand note to one of the bank's tellers. In that note, Karaus demanded all of the money from the teller's drawer. In connection with his plea, Karaus also admitted robbing the same Wells Fargo Bank on July 9, 2005, and the Washington Mutual Bank at 866 North Johnson Avenue, El Cajon, of \$1,741 on July 12, 2005. Karaus was arrested on July 19, 2005, shortly after he robbed the Wells Fargo Bank.

U.S. Attorney Carol Lam praised the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the El Cajon Police Department for their thorough investigation and quick apprehension of the defendant.

DEFENDANT

Richard Lynn Karaus

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

Title 18, United States Code, Section 2113(a) (Bank Robbery)

Maximum Penalty: Twenty years' incarceration

\$250,000 fine

Three years of supervised release

INVESTIGATING AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation

El Cajon Police Department